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JOURNALS AND NEW BOOKS

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY. November, 1919. Instinct and the Unconscious I (pp. 1-7): W. H. R. RIVERS. -The "all-or-none" principle and the absence of gradation as the distinguishing marks of instinct. In a postscript written six months later the author says he is inclined to continue the use of the word "instinct" as a term for innate mental process, and to distinguish different varieties of instinct according as they are or are not subject to the "all-or-none" principle. Instinct and the Unconscious II (pp. 8-14): Charles S. Myers. - There emerge out of the unconscious not merely the more or less imperfectly repressed activities which have been dismissed from consciousness, but also fresh activities, intellectual as well as instinctive. In the unconscious germinate new instincts for the species and the creative flights of individual genius. Instinct and the Unconscious III (pp. 15-23): C. G. Jung. -Instinct is characterized by the "all-or-none" reaction as maintained by Dr. Rivers, but the present writer finds it impossible merely to rely on the criterion of the "all-or-none" reaction as the "all-ornone" reaction is without any gradation of intensity in respect of the circumstances which call it forth. "Instincts are typical ways of action and reaction, and whenever it is a matter of uniformly and regularly repeated reactions we are witnessing instinct. It is in so far quite indifferent whether there is an association with conscious motivation or not, and it is also indifferent what the momentary individual form of action is." Instinct and the Unconscious IV (pp. 24-26): Graham Wallas. - The writer does not think that "suppression or dissociation is the most effective way by which civilized man gains control over his instincts. Dr. Rivers's argument as to the "all-or-none" nature of instinct raises the further question whether the bringing into consciousness of an instinct weakens, or intensifies, or, as he would seem to argue, leaves unchanged its actual manifestation. Instinct and the Unconscious V (pp. 27-34): James Drever. - Instinct is "determinate conscious impulse which is not determined by previous individual experience, but which nevertheless enters into and determines individual experience and attitude." The unconscious will be consciousness mainly at or below the perceptual level, and therefore consciousness in which appetite and instinct will have the fullest play, but to identify the unconscious with instinct is impossible. Instinct and the Unconscious VI (pp. 35-42): W. McDougall. - The writer considers Dr. River's "all-ornone" principle ill-founded. It is difficult to believe that the "allor-none" principle holds good of the single nerve fiber or neurone. If it were established, we should still have to believe that in the working of the higher levels of the nervous system it is completely overlaid and disguised by some compensating principle. "Instincts are innate dispositions, parts of the innate structure of the mind." The Relation of Æsthetics to Psychology (pp. 43-50): EDWARD BUL-LOUGH. - The problems of esthetics are presented—individual vs. social factors, receptive vs. creative aspects, the origins of art, comparative esthetics. The Generation and Control of Emotions (pp. 51-65): Alfred Carver. - Emotion is only one aspect of the internal adjustment which an organism makes in order more completely to adapt itself to sudden changes in environment. Other conclusions are also drawn. The illustrations and deductions are drawn from military life. The Relation between the Word and the Unconscious (pp. 66-80): Joshua C. Gregory. - The "substitute sign" stimulates the mental process represented by the meaning it is to express when the final calculation is made and the mental process whose meaning is connected with the mathematical operation to which it is submitted. Signs like words are stimuli directive of mental processes that proceed largely unconsciously, like the organized dispositions responsible for them, and these mental processes, or reactions, may, more or less, according to circumstances, be conscious operations. The Rôle of Interference Factors in Producing Correlation (pp. 81-100): J. RIDLEY THOMPSON. - When the mechanism of correlation is one of overlapping and three variates are considered, a condition is known which, when fulfilled, gives certain evidence of the presence of a general factor. On Listening to Sounds of Weak Intensity, Part I (pp. 101-129): E. M. SMITH and F. C. BARTLETT. -The aim of the research is to devise apparatus and methods by which a satisfactory auditory acuity test may be secured and to observe in detail the influence of various objective and subjective factors upon successful listening to sounds of weak intensity. It may be concluded that some degree of practise is necessary before the lowest threshold of acuity can be secured, but it still remains doubtful if prolonged practise produces any further effect of this kind. Publications Recently Received: Proceedings of the British Psychological Society.

Chiocchetti, Emilio. La Filosofia di Benedetto Croce. (Seconda edizione riveduta e ampliata.) Milan: Societa Editrice "Vita e Pensiero." 1920. Pp. 341. L. 10.75.

Eddington, A. S. Space, Time and Gravitation: An Outline of the General Relativity Theory. Cambridge: University Press. 1920. Pp. 218. 15s. net.

- Merz, John Theodore. A Fragment on the Human Mind. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1920. Pp. xiv + 309. \$4.50.
- Owen, Dorothy Tudor. The Child Vision: Being a Study in Mental Development and Expression. Manchester, Eng.: University Press. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 1920. Pp. xvi + 180. \$2.50.
- Pratt, James Bissett. The Religious Consciousness: A Psychological Study. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1920. Pp. viii + 488.

NOTES AND NEWS

A MEETING of the Aristotelian Society was held on June 21st, Mr. A. F. Shand in the chair. A paper was read by Miss Edgell on Memory and Conation. The view of three writers approaching the subject from the differing standpoints of philosophical psychology, biology and psychiatry, viz., Professor Ward, Dr. Semon and Dr. Freud were examined with reference to the question: Does memory require the recognition in mental life of a specific function, conation? Analysis shows that for Professor Ward the activity of the subject of experience is essential both for the development of memory and for many of its manifestations. If activity of subject be understood as implying conation, then the author's theory of memory does involve conation. Dr. Semon, following Hering and Butler, regards memory as a function of all organic matter and its laws as laws of organic life. Nevertheless in dealing with human memory Semon recognizes "vividness" in imagery as essential for memory and association. Vividness is distinguished from intensity and made to depend on attention. The relation of attention to the laws of organic life is still obscure, and attention is treated as if it were an original force. The rôle of conation in the psychology of Dr. Freud is all important. It is the conation of unconscious wish which is regarded as explanatory, if not of the fact of memory itself, at least of many of the phenomena of remembering and forgetting in every-day life.

W. NESTLE has undertaken to bring out a new edition of the monumental work of Zeller, *Die Philosophie der Griechen*. The first volume has already appeared.

THERE is also to be published shortly the eleventh edition of the first volume of Ueberweg's *Grundriss*. Dr. Karl Praechter, who revised the preceding edition, published in 1909, has added to it considerably in the present volume.